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**PENRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1971**

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## **STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:**

**JOHN CONNOLLY, M.D., D.P.H.,**  
(Also Northern Area Medical Officer, Cumberland  
County).

### **CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:**

**COLIN WILDING, M.A.P.H.I.**

### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:**

**GUY H. DUXBURY, M.A.P.H.I.**

### **CLERK/SHORTHAND TYPIST**

**MRS. JOAN WILSON**

MANSION HOUSE,  
PENRITH,  
CUMBERLAND.

October, 1972.

*To the Chairman and Members of  
The Penrith Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

**Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health**

I wish to present the Annual Report on the Health of the community for the year 1971.

I am pleased to include in the report the contribution of the Chief Public Health Inspector, and that of the Architect and Surveyor.

My thanks go to members of the Council, to my colleagues in other departments of the Council and the staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year.

JOHN CONNOLLY,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District (in acres) ... ..	181,531
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	3,764
Rateable Value ... ..	£345,813
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£3,262
Registrar General's estimate of the Population mid year 1971 ... ..	11,240

### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at mid year 1971 was 11,240 being a decrease of 210 over the year 1970. This was unexpected as there was increase of 40 in 1970 over 1969. There is a distinct fall in population.

## VITAL STATISTICS

	Males	Females	Total	Rates
<i>(a) Live Births:</i>				
Legitimate	86	69	155	
Illegitimate	4	4	8	
	<hr/> 90	<hr/> 73	<hr/> 163	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of population (crude rate) ... ..				14.5
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor of 1.07 ... ..				15.5
Illegitimate Live Births (percent of total Live Births) ... ..				5.0
<i>(b) Still Births:</i>				
Legitimate	—	2	2	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) ...				12.0
England and Wales Rate 1971 ...				12.0

Deaths	Males	Females	Total	Rates
Deaths of all Ages	58	56	114	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	10.1
Corrected Death Rate by comparability factor of 1.05	...	...	...	10.6
Maternal Deaths (including abortions)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths of Infants				
Under one year	1	1	2	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	12.0
Neonatal Morality (Deaths in the first month per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	12.0
England and Wales Rate (Neonatal)	...	...	...	12.0
Perinatal Morality Rate (Still Births plus Deaths in first week per 1,000 total live and still births)				24.0
Rate for England and Wales (Perinatal)				22.0

Table showing the Vital Statistics for England and Wales and certain groups in the County of Cumberland in 1971.

	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
England and Wales	16.0	11.6	18.0
Administrative County of Cumberland	15.1	12.5	19.6
Urban Districts of Cumberland (including Boroughs of Workington and Whitehaven)	15.8	12.3	13.5
Rural Districts of Cumberland	14.6	12.6	24.2
Rural District of Penrith (crude rate)	14.5	10.1	12.0
Corrected by Comparability factor	15.5	10.6	12.0

NOTE.—The corrected rates should be used for comparison with other areas.



## PENRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL RATES 1956-1971

Year	Population	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Total Infantile Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate	England & Wales Infantile Mortality Rate
1956	11,480	10.5	17.5	6	30.7	23.8
1957	11,500	11.8	15.6	4	22.9	23.0
1958	11,480	11.5	17.7	5	25.4	22.5
1959	11,480	10.9	19.7	Nil	Nil	22.0
1960	11,510	11.2	16.9	5	26.3	21.7
1961	11,310	11.4	17.6	2	10.3	21.4
1962	11,390	12.2	17.2	5	26.3	21.4
1963	11,430	12.8	17.6	Nil	Nil	20.9
1964	11,490	12.0	20.6	4	18.0	20.0
1965	11,510	11.1	16.3	4	22.9	19.0
1966	11,460	12.9	17.4	5	27.0	19.0
1967	11,480	10.4	16.7	1	6.0	18.3
1968	11,420	11.9	17.3	3	16.0	18.0
1969	11,410	10.4	15.7	4	24.0	18.0
1970	11,450	12.0	14.3	1	7.0	18.0
1971	11,240	10.6	15.5	2	12.0	18.0

## Cancer Deaths

Location of Disease	Males	Females	Total
Lung, Bronchus	3	—	3
Intestine ...	1	4	5
Prostate ...	1	—	1
Other Sites ...	5	—	5
	—	—	—
	10	4	14
	—	—	—

## Deaths from all Causes

The deaths recorded in 1971 totalled 114, a decrease of 17 over the previous year giving a corrected death rate of 10.6 per 1,000 of population.

Because of the small size of the statistics, infant death rates in the area vary a great deal from year to year.

CANCER DEATHS, as already indicated, totalled 14 representing 12% of all deaths.

There were three male deaths due to lung cancer in the age group 65-74 and one over 75 years.

BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA accounted for two male deaths.

DISEASES OF THE HEART AND CIRCULATORY SYSTEM, accounted for 84 deaths.

ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE, better known as Coronary Heart Disease accounted for the deaths of 18 males and 20 females.

Ten of these were people aged between 45 and 64 years.

Smoking, particularly cigarette smoking, contributes to chronic bronchitis and ischaemic heart disease (coronary heart attacks). Both of these are diseases with other linked causes.

Lung cancer is of course directly linked with the smoking habit.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, accounted for 2 deaths, 1 male and 1 female.



### Causes of Death as given by the Registrar General, 1971

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. ..	1	4	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostrate .. ..	1	—	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms .. ..	5	—	5
Diabetes Mellitus .. ..	1	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System .. ..	1	—	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. ..	1	—	1
Hypertensive Disease .. ..	—	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease .. ..	18	20	38
Other forms of Heart Disease .. ..	5	6	11
Cerebrovascular Disease .. ..	10	16	26
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	1	5	6
Pneumonia .. ..	5	1	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema .. ..	2	—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System .. ..	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis .. ..	1	—	1
Congenital Anomalies .. ..	1	—	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ..	—	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	1	1	2
	58	56	114

Age Group of Death of All Cases, 1970.

Age Group	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 74	75 and over
Males ..	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	10	19	21
Females ..	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	13	35
Total ..	2	-	1	-	1	2	-	7	13	32	56

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**

### **1. Laboratory Services**

The Public health Laboratory at the Cumberland Infirmary under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies, has been responsible for all the necessary services.

### **2. Ambulance Facilities**

The Ambulance facilities in East Cumberland which includes the Penrith Rural District is a directly operated service and the responsibility of the County Council as the Health Authority.

### **3. Nursing in the Home**

The County Council as the Health Authority provide all the necessary facilities.

# Notification of Infectious Diseases—1971 in Age Groups

Diseases	Ages	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	45-	55-	65-	Total	Died
Infective Hepatitis	..	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	11	-
Measles	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Scarlet Fever	..	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Whooping Cough	..	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
TOTALS	..	-	1	-	-	2	9	5	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	22	-



## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Notification of Infectious Diseases totalled 22 in 1971.

In 1970 there were 57 notified diseases. It must be remembered that not every notifiable disease is in fact formally notified. Many cases of food poisoning must occur which are not reported to any Doctor.

### **Infective Hepatitis**

Eleven notifications have been received for this disease. All have been carefully investigated.

This is a disease associated with poor personal hygiene, and control is difficult because of the long incubation period. Health education leading to cleaner personal habits should help to limit the spread of the disease.

All cases have been carefully investigated to exclude association with food handlers.

### **Scarlet Fever**

Five cases have been notified during the year. This is at present a mild disease.

All cases have been carefully investigated to exclude associations with food handlers.

### **Whooping Cough**

Four cases have been notified during the year. It is disappointing to find whooping cough cases occurring during the year, although none were children of pre-school age.

The last notification of this disease was in 1967.

Immunisation against whooping cough is well accepted in the district and is carried out in infancy.

### **Measles**

This was the commonest notified disease in 1970 with 45 cases. There were 4 cases notified during the year 1971.

Vaccination against measles is readily available and there has been computer booking of appointments for immunisation since the Autumn of 1970.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

The following table gives particulars of new cases added to the Register and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1971.



AGE	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
1—4 years ..	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	—	—	—	—
15—24 years ..	—	—	—	—
25—34 years ..	—	—	—	—
35—44 years ..	—	—	—	—
45—54 years ..	1	—	—	—
55—64 years ..	—	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	1	1	—	—

Two cases were removed from the Register for the following reason:—

	Males	Females	Total
Left District ...	—	—	—
Recovered ...	1	1	2
Died ...	—	—	—

The following table gives the number of cases on the Register at 31st December 1971. The totals are unaltered over the twelve month period.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	8	7	15
Non-Pulmonary	—	4	4
	—	—	—
	8	11	19
	—	—	—

## Prevention of Tuberculosis

### (a) MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

The Chest Clinic at the City General Hospital, Carlisle is open five days a week with open sessions, mornings, afternoons and Wednesday evenings without any prior appointment being necessary.

### (b) B.C.G. VACCINATION

The B.C.G. Vaccination with prior Mantoux or Heaf testing of school children was undertaken on transfer to Secondary Schools in the district at the age of 11-12 years.

## SMALLPOX

Vaccination against Smallpox has a long history and was one of the procedures carried out with computer booking in the early part of 1971. In July 1971 it was reported that the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation had reviewed the policy on vaccination against Smallpox. This is no longer advocated as a routine procedure in infancy and is no longer routinely booked by the County Council computer.

## HOUSING

*I am grateful to Mr. E. A. Burne, for the following information on housing matters.*

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I submit the following report on housing matters for the year 1971.

The council made progress in building Old Peoples' Bungalows at Greystoke by completing during the year 14 dwellings complete with Electricaire heating, this type of heating system has proved satisfactory.

The total number of Council Houses now occupied in the Rural District up to the end of 1971 is as follows:—

Aikbank .. .. .	4	Lazonby .. .. .	26
Ainstable .. .. .	8	Lazonby (Eden Square) ..	7
Ainstable (Old People's) ..	2	Lazonby (Old People's) ..	6
Aldby .. .. .	2	Little Salkeld .. .. .	16
Armathwaite .. .. .	8	Low Braithwaite .. .. .	2
Armathwaite (Old People's) ..	2	Low Hesket .. .. .	12
Blencarn .. .. .	4	Low Plains .. .. .	4
Blencowe .. .. .	4	Mellguards .. .. .	2
Calthwaite .. .. .	11	Melmerby .. .. .	6
Catterlen .. .. .	8	Mungrisdale .. .. .	2
Clickham .. .. .	4	Newbiggin .. .. .	16
Culgaith .. .. .	22	Newton Reigny .. .. .	4
Dacre .. .. .	4	Ousby .. .. .	6
Dockray .. .. .	2	Pallet Hill .. .. .	2
Edenhall .. .. .	4	Penruddock .. .. .	6
Gamblesby .. .. .	4	Plumpton .. .. .	15
Glassonby .. .. .	4	Plumpton (Old People's) ..	2
Glassonby (Old People's) ..	2	Renwick .. .. .	4
Great Salkeld .. .. .	4	Salkeld Dykes .. .. .	4
Great Salkeld (Old People's) ..	2	Skelton .. .. .	10
Greystoke .. .. .	22	Skelton (Old People's) ..	6
Greystoke (Old People's) ..	4	Skirwith .. .. .	8
Greystoke (Castle Gardens) ..	14	Southwaite .. .. .	2
Howes .. .. .	2	Sowerby Row .. .. .	2
Hunsonby .. .. .	19	Stainton .. .. .	22
Hutton End .. .. .	4	Stainton (Old People's) ..	6
Ivegill .. .. .	4	Thiefside .. .. .	4
Kirkland .. .. .	2	Threlkeld .. .. .	39
Kirkoswald .. .. .	28	Threlkeld (Old People's) ..	2
Langwathby .. .. .	20	Winskill (Old People's) ..	6
Langwathby (Old People's) ..	4	Wordsley House,	
Langwathby (The Meadows-G.P.)	6	Kirkoswald (Flats) ..	2
Langwathby (The Meadows- Old People's) ..	10		
		TOTAL ..	495

Further sites have been negotiated with the Planning Authorities:—

- |               |   |                                                         |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Lazonby       | — | 15 General Purpose Houses and 7 Old Peoples' Bungalows. |
| Culgaith      | — | 6 Old Peoples' Bungalows.                               |
| Great Salkeld | — | 2 General Purpose Houses and 3 Old Peoples' Bungalows.  |

Progress is being made on planning for General Purpose Houses and Old Peoples' Bungalows on land owned by the Council at Stainton.

Four Bungalows at Watermillock proved abortive due to being outside the yardstick figure and is being held over for time being to see whether the Department of the Environment will increase the cost yardstick.

Private building in the area has again decreased from 16 houses completed to 11, although the number of houses under construction at the end of the year has increased from 17 to 41. The total number of houses completed under private development in the post war period is 402.

All plans which are approved by the Council are subject to periodical inspections during the progress of the work, this includes new houses, renovations and repairs, construction and siting of all septic tanks, testing of drains and to see that work complies with the 1965 Building Regulations.

### **Housing (Financial Provisions Act 1958**

No applications were received for the erection of any houses for agricultural workers under the above Act. The grant is for housing agricultural workers whereby the applicant is entitled to a grant of £10 p.a. for 40 years.

### **Housing Act 1969**

Grants are made by local Councils to help owners to improve old houses to a good standard, or to provide dwellings either by converting houses of an unsatisfactory size, or by converting non-residential buildings to a housing use. These are called discretionary grants because they are made at the Council's discretion.

The Department of the Environment altered their legislation so that owners who are improving property when completed to the Council's satisfaction can immediately sell the property if so desired. Grants given previously to the 1969 Act will retain the Conditions under the 1958 Act.



## 1. DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

To qualify for a Discretionary Grant a dwelling must where practicable, after improvement or conversion meet with the following twelve-point standard laid down by the Ministry as follows:—

- (a) be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (b) have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- (c) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on inside the dwelling.
- (d) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- (e) have an internal water closet if practicable, otherwise a readily accessible outside water closet.
- (f) have a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (g) be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangement for the disposal of waste water.
- (h) have a proper drainage system.
- (i) be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (j) be provided with adequate facilities for heating.
- (k) have satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food.
- (l) have proper provision for storing fuel (where required).

Exceptionally, the Council may agree to dispense with a requirement if they are satisfied that it cannot be complied with in a particular case.

To qualify for a grant the Council must be satisfied that the house is likely to have a useful life of at least thirty years after the work has been done. Exceptionally, they may be prepared to give approval where the house has a shorter life if they are satisfied that there is good reason to do so.

In the current year 65 applications were received. All properties were inspected and technical advice given on the proposed improvements.

Since the Act came into force a total of 616 applications involving improvements to dwellings have been dealt with by the Council, 57 of which were either disapproved or cancelled and at the end of the year 472 schemes have been satisfactorily completed provided 522 Grade 1 houses.

During the current year a total of 65 Discretionary Grant and 7 Standard Grant applications have been received. The Council gave approval to 64 Discretionary and 6 Standard Grant applications.

The whole of Cumberland has been classed by the Department of the Environment as an Industrial Area, this of course, includes Penrith Rural District and it means that the Discretionary Grant has been increased from £1,000 to a £1,500 maximum, this includes the cost of repairs and replacements. The amount of repairs not to exceed one half of the improvements.

## 2. STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Standard Grants are given for improving houses by providing for the first time any missing amenities.

The standard amenities are:—

- (a) fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (b) wash-hand basin.
- (c) sink.
- (b) hot and cold water supply at a:—
  - (i) fixed bath or shower.
  - (ii) wash hand basin.
  - (iii) sink.
- (e) water closet.

The Standard Grant is treated in the same way as the Discretionary Grant, the amount being increased from half to three-quarters of the cost with a maximum of £300. The improvements being calculated against the items given below which have to be provided under the Act:—

Fixed bath or shower	...	...	£45
Wash-hand basin	...	...	£15
Sink	...	...	£22.50
Hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower	...	...	£67.50
Hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand-basin	...	...	£30
Hot and cold water supply at a sink	...	...	£45
Water Closet	...	...	£75

Under the 1969 Act amended 1971 Standard Improvement Grants were increased, the Council now have power to raise the maximum grant to £675, the items quoted above remain the same but additional grant can be given for providing the following:—

- (a) if the Council are satisfied that it would not be reasonably practicable to provide a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom except by building onto the property (or by



converting outbuildings which will be attached to it) an amount equal to three-quarters of the reasonable cost of this improvement will be substituted for the normal allowance of £45.

- (b) if the Council are satisfied that it would not be possible or reasonably practicable to provide a W.C. and connect it to main drainage, and the W.C. is to be installed with septic tank or cesspool drainage, an amount equal to three-quarters of the reasonable cost of this improvement will be substituted for the normal allowance of £75.
- (c) if, in order to carry out the improvements, a piped supply of cold water is brought to the property for the first time, an additional amount equal to three-quarters of the reasonable cost of this work can be included in the calculation of the maximum grant.

If all or any of these circumstances apply, the grant is subject to an overall maximum of £675 instead of the normal £450.

The Standard Grant is a statutory obligation on the Council providing that the house is structurally sound and will give satisfactory accommodation for at least 15 years.

Since the Act came into operation the Council have received a total of 250 applications; 7 of these are for the current year and 210 schemes have been satisfactorily completed.

There is a time limit in carrying out and completing both Discretionary and Standard Grants. Under the 1969 Act amended 1971 the higher grants have to be completed by June 1973 otherwise, they will revert back to the maximum of £1,000 and £200 grants. The importance of this is that all building work must be completed by that date.

A number of people in the Rural District have taken advantage of both the Discretionary and Standard Improvement Grants. All properties were carefully inspected and technical advice given on both planning and building construction and how far the Act can be implemented in each application.

A considerable amount of enquiries have been dealt with, some of which have not gone forward for the grant either because the property could not be brought up to standard at reasonable expense or not up to the standard to qualify for a grant.

Yours faithfully,

E. A. BURNE,

Architect and Surveyor.



**REPORT**

**of the**

**Chief Public Health  
Inspector**

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Penrith Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this report on the work of the department during the year, 1971.

### **Water Supplies**

The major part of your area is well served by main water supplies, the Eden Water Board being the responsible Authority.

During the year the Kirkland Beck supply to the villages of Blencarn and Skirwith was replaced by a vastly superior supply from the Cliburn Borehole Scheme.

The whole area apart from Ainstable have good chlorinated supplies and the supply at Ainstable gives little cause for complaint.

Fluoridation of water supplies is not carried out.

The following table shows that the majority of houses in the area are connected to the public mains supply and that practically all other properties have the benefit of private piped supplies.

Parish	Population	No. of Inhab- ited Houses	No. of Houses Supplied Direct from Public Main	Popula- toin Supplied
Ainstable .. ..	435	147	144	429
Castlesowerby .. ..	334	102	100	330
Catterlen .. ..	324	110	108	320
Culgaith .. ..	630	224	223	625
Dacre .. ..	1024	357	356	1018
Glassonby .. ..	284	95	91	280
Great Salkeld .. ..	339	128	124	335
Greystoke .. ..	525	208	191	520
Hesket .. ..	2013	655	647	2010
Hunsonby .. ..	397	131	124	390
Hutton .. ..	298	98	89	290
Kirkoswald .. ..	735	208	199	725
Langwathby .. ..	615	203	202	610
Lazonby .. ..	651	227	219	650
Matterdale .. ..	524	198	138	311
Mungrisdale .. ..	290	99	93	284
Ousby .. ..	307	109	102	298
Skelton .. ..	953	294	278	948
Threlkeld .. ..	562	171	159	545
Total .. ..	11240	3764	3587	10918

## Water Sampling

Water sampling of public supplies is carried out both by the Water Board and this Council, samples being regularly taken from the various sources of supply.

During the year 84 samples were taken from the public supplies and of these 8 proved unsatisfactory.

### WATER SAMPLING RESULTS 1971

<i>Supply</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ainstable .. ..	3	1	4
Calthwaite .. ..	1	—	1
Culgaith .. ..	5	—	5
Douthwaite .. ..	1	—	1
Edenhall .. ..	5	—	5
Gamblesby .. ..	6	1	7
Great Salkeld .. ..	1	—	1
High Hesket .. ..	5	—	5
Kirkland .. ..	5	—	5
Kirkoswald .. ..	1	—	1
Lazonby .. ..	7	—	7
Melmerby .. ..	1	—	1
Mungrisdale .. ..	5	—	5
Ousby .. ..	3	1	4
Renwick .. ..	3	1	4
Skirwith .. ..	5	—	5
Southwaite .. ..	3	1	4
Threlkeld .. ..	3	—	3
Troutbeck .. ..	5	—	5
Watermillock .. ..	4	—	4

#### PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Hartside .. ..	2	—	2
Melmerby .. ..	1	—	1
Watermillock .. ..	1	3	4
Totals .. ..	76	8	84

Four samples of water were taken for chemical analysis from Dale Village, Mungrisdale village and two from Douthwaite Head and all proved satisfactory on chemical analysis.

## Sewerage

The following villages all have modern sewage disposal schemes which have been completed during the last eleven years:—

Skelton, High and Low Hesket, Armathwaite, Stainton and Newbiggin, Lazonby and Kirkoswald, Melmerby, Skirwith, Threlkeld and Southwaite.

The Threlkeld scheme which was completed during the year is an oxidation ditch on similar lines to the one at Melmerby. It has proved most successful in operation, a particular feature being the absence of smell at the works.

The sewage works at Southwaite was also completed during the year and although built primarily to serve the M.6. Motorway Service Centre, it also serves the village of Southwaite.

New schemes are also in the design stage for Langwathby, Penruddock, Motherby and Catterlen and the reconstruction of Greystoke sewage works commenced in the year.

There are in addition to these modern sewage disposal works, some seventy other Council disposal plants of varying size and efficiency, catering for villages and small groups of houses throughout the area. The majority of these plants consist of septic tanks which serve a useful purpose in the small installation, but for the hamlets and villages prove most inadequate giving very poor effluents.

Progress on installing new schemes has gone on steadily over the past few years, difficulties and setbacks have been encountered, but the overall picture is very good. Most of the bigger villages have been provided with modern works and attention will now have to be given to the smaller villages and hamlets, although the cost per house on some of these smaller schemes will prove extremely high.

For the properties where public sewers are not available a cesspool emptying service is operated. A 1,000 gallon vacuum tanker is used to give a free service to the public for emptying domestic septic tanks once per year. The machine is also used for emptying Council septic tanks and also those of commercial premises.

During the year 118 Council tanks and 125 private tanks were emptied, and six men are employed on general maintenance of sewers and sewage disposal works etc.



The disposal of farm wastes from farms where intensive rearing of animals is practiced has again given cause for complaints due to the foul smells pervading the countryside when pigs and poultry manures are spread on to the land in a liquid state. The farming community must look carefully at this method of disposal and take every precaution to avoid the serious nuisances which can be caused.

### **Refuse Collection**

A weekly collection service is now given to the majority of the villages in the area and very few complaints are received concerning the service. Two compression type vehicles are utilised, five men are employed and over 500 miles per week are covered by the vehicles in collecting domestic refuse.

A kerbside system of collection is operated, but in the case of the Council's sixty old people's bungalows, a paper sack system has been instituted and this has proved quite successful.

Refuse tips are located at:—

1. Kirkoswald
2. Ellonby
3. Lothian Gill, Hesket
4. Culgaith

The tips at Kirkoswald and Ellonby are open to the public for disposal of domestic refuse and on request a free collection of large domestic items is given to the public. These policies are both directed at minimising the dumping of rubbish on roadside verges which has been increasing over the last few years.

The amount of paper and packaging material continues to rise and creates difficulty on the tips, which are a constant source of trouble. It is difficult to give adequate supervision to the tips, especially when the public are allowed continuous access and it is obvious that if they are to be kept in better order the cost must necessarily rise.

During the year 5 abandoned cars were removed from the roads and two cars were removed from private property.

### **Public Conveniences**

There is one public convenience in the rural district which is situated at Aira Force Car Park, Ullswater. This facility has been provided by the Lake District Planning Board and is maintained by this Council on the Board's behalf.

An enormous number of people use these facilities and it is pleasing to note that vandalism has been almost absent.

**Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

The following is a list of food premises in the district:—

Poultry Dressing	...	...	...	2
General Stores	...	...	...	34
Butchers	...	...	...	5
Cafes	...	...	...	10
Hotels and Licensed Premises	...	...	...	59
Bakehouses	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				111
				<hr/>
Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream				51
Premises registered for the manufacturing of				
ice-cream	...	...	...	2

One manufacturer uses the hot mix process where the whole mix is pasteurised before sale, and the other uses the cold mix process consisting of adding sterile ice-cream powder to water.

The following results were obtained from the 4 samples of ice-cream taken:—

## Grade 1 — 4

Periodic inspections are made of all premises where food is handled for sale and careful attention is paid to the hotels and catering industry. The number of premises, particularly licensed premises, where catering is now carried on has progressively increased in the last few years. Difficulties in obtaining experienced staff, and the big movement of staff in the industry are factors which can often affect the standards from a food hygiene point of view. Generally speaking the standard of cleanliness is good and any lower standard found is referred immediately to the occupier, and if necessary brought to the attention of the Health Committee for possible action.

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

		Cwts.	lbs.
Slaughterhouse meat	...	2	84
Canned meats	...		29
Other canned foods	...	4	16
Other foods	...	1	90
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	8	107
		<hr/>	<hr/>



### Poultry Inspection

Number of poultry processing premises ... ..	2
Number of visits ... ..	109
Type of birds processed:—	
Hens ... ..	455,000
Capons ... ..	31,000
Turkeys ... ..	8,000
Total number of birds processed ... ..	474,000
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption ... ..	3%
Weight of poultry rejected as unfit for human consumption ... ..	20 tons

The number of birds processed at the factories in the area showed an increase on last years number. Regular weekly visits are made to the factories in order to maintain a general oversight of the conditions of the premises and the type and fitness of the birds passing through. It is only possible to check on a small percentage of the poultry and the responsibility for ensuring that all poultry processed is fit for human consumption rest with the occupiers of the premises.

It is obviously highly desirable that all poultry should be inspected by the Health Inspectors, in the same way as meat is inspected, but this task would mean constant attendance at the factories and is at the present time not feasible.

### Milk Supplies

Thirty-one samples of milk were taken during the year, the majority of these being untreated.

One sample failed the Methylene Blue Test, a test for keeping quality, and the necessary action was taken with the Producers concerned.

One sample of milk was found to be positive on culture to Brucellosis. This was from a supply which was being pasteurised, and the milk producer was informed of the findings in order that he could take appropriate action.

One small school in the area was receiving untreated milk, and due to its isolation, difficulty has been found by the Authorities in providing an alternative pasteurised supply

## Meat Inspection

There is one licensed slaughterhouse at Kirkoswald, where all meat is inspected and stamped by the Inspector before it can be sold.

A total of 878 carcasses has been inspected during the year and this work has involved 192 visits to the slaughterhouse, and a total of 2 cwt. 84 lbs. of meat was found to be unfit. The quality of the meat produced at this slaughterhouse is excellent.

The following table shows details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned.

The following table shows details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned.

Particulars	Cattle except Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	248	—	—	622	8
Number inspected .. ..	248	—	—	622	8
<b>All Diseases except</b>					
<b>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	20	—	—	29	—
Percentage of the number killed affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .. ..	8.1	—	—	4.8	—
<b>Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was affected ..	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Cysticercus</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	7	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .. ..	—	—	—	1	—

### CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

<b>Cattle:</b>	9 Whole or part livers	—Fascioliasis
	4 Whole or part livers	—Abscesses
	4 sets Lungs	—Pleurisy
	1 part carcass	—Injury and Bruising
	1 Part carcass	—Arthritis
	1 Heart	—Pericarditis

<b>Sheep:</b>	1 Whole carcase	—Cysticercus Ovis
	1 Whole carcase	—Emaciation and Oedema
	9 Whole or part livers	—Fascioliasis
	8 Sets Lungs	—Lung worms
	1 Whole or part liver	—Abscesses
	1 Part carcase	—Abscesses
	7 Part carcasses	—Taenia Multiceps
	2 Part carcasses	—Injury

**Pigs:** No condemnations were made.

### Factories Act

There are forty-nine factories registered in the area, and all these are inspected from time to time and close co-operation is maintained with H.M. Factories Inspectors to ensure overall compliance with the Regulations.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### PART 1 OF THE ACT

#### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health (including Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is to be enforced by the Local Authority ..	49	19	2	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises .. ..	—	—	—	
TOTALS ..	49	19	2	—



## 2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) .. ..	2	2	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork) ..	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ..	5	5	-	-	-

### Outworkers

There was one outworker concerned with the making of wearing apparel, on the list required by Section 133 (1).

The following is a summary of Facoties on the Register:—

Industry	Number
Animal Feeding Stuffs Manufacture	1
Bakehouse ... ..	1
Brush Manufacture ... ..	1
Building Maintenance ... ..	3
Caravan Manufacture ... ..	1
Civil Engineering ... ..	2
Concrete Products ... ..	4
Course Milling and Provender ...	1
Electricity ... ..	1
Food Processing ... ..	2
Grain Grinding ... ..	1
Millboard ... ..	1
Motor Vehicle Repairs ... ..	10
Poultry Dressing ... ..	2
Precision Engineering ... ..	1
Repair of Electrical Equipment ...	3
Repair of plant ... ..	1
Sand Lime Bricks ... ..	1
Sawmill or Joinery ... ..	11
Slaughterhouse ... ..	1
	<u>49</u>

## Housing and Slum Clearance

The slum clearance programme has continued during the year and 28 houses considered unfit and not repairable at reasonable cost have been the subject of Closing Orders and Official Undertakings.

This makes a total of 229 houses dealt with in this manner during the last 8 years.

Five houses were demolished in the year and 12 orders were removed from houses following the satisfactory renovation of the houses concerned.

At the end of 1971, 50 houses which were subject to Closing Orders, etc. were still occupied, some of them many years after the Orders have been made.

The improvement of older property has again received more emphasis and during the year improvement grants in this area were raised to 75% grant with a maximum grant of £1,500, and this undoubtedly will result in more application for grant. In the last 8 years, 56 houses previously represented as unfit have been modernised and the Closing Orders cancelled, and it is expected that this figure will rise rapidly with the increased grant available, and the very high demand for holiday homes in the area. The number of houses demolished has been small and although it is pleasing to see the character of the area retained by renovating the older properties, the cost of bringing many of the houses up to a satisfactory standard is extremely high and without the aid of grants would possibly have not taken place.

## HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

### HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In or Adjoining Clearance Areas	Unfit for human habitation	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Included by reason of bad arrangement	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	On land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
Not in adjoining Clearance Areas	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	3 3
	Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Houses included in unfitness orders made para. 2 of the Second Schedule to the land compensation Act 1961	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
Number of houses included above which were previously reported as closed in pursuance of Closing Order or undertakings		In or adjoining clearance areas Not in or adjoining clearance areas	- 3

### UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

#### in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings

Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act 1961	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	28 28
Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957	Number of dwellings	-



### Number of PERSONS DISPLACED

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ..	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ..	4
From houses to be closed .. .. .	33
From parts of buildings to be closed .. .. .	—

### Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ..	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ..	1
From houses to be closed .. .. .	15
From parts of buildings to be closed .. .. .	—

### UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

After informal action by Local Authority ..	by owner ..	59
After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16 ..	(a) by owner ..	1
	(b) by local authority ..	—
After formal notice under Public Health Acts ..		—
Previously included in a clearance order which has been or will be modified or revoked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1961 .. .. .		—
Previously included in a demolition order which has been or will be revoked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..		2
Previously included in a Closing order which has been or will be determined under Section 27, Housing Act, 1957 ..		9

### OTHER HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

After formal notice under Public Health Acts ..		—
After formal action under Section 9 (1A) Housing Act, 1957 .. .. .	(a) by owner ..	—
	(b) by local authority ..	—
After informal action by local authority ..		—

### UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE

(Housing Act, 1957)

Retained for Temporary Accom- modation	Under Section 48	Number of Houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwellings contained therein ..	—
	Under Section 17 (2)	Number of houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwellings contained therein ..	—
	Under Section 46	Number of houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwellings contained therein ..	—

## PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	Number of houses ..	—
	Number of occupants	—

### Caravan and Camping Sites

Thirty-four caravan sites are licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

The largest site is licensed for 140 caravans and the total number of caravans is 554. There are a few chalets in use only during the summer months and licences are in force under the Public Health Act, 1936, allowing 75 tents on 4 of the caravan sites.

During the year the number of licensed caravans increased by 28.

The conditions on all sites have been satisfactory and a high standard of amenity is insisted on. Water closets, showers, basins, laundry facilities and hot water being provided on all but the very small sites.

With the advent of the motorway the number of caravans coming to the area is rapidly increasing and in the height of the summer season it is impossible for a tourist to find a vacancy on a licensed caravan site.

Consequently some of the existing sites submit to pressure and are allowed to become overcrowded, and many caravans are parked on lay-byes.

There is a noticeable lack of facilities for touring caravans, the large majority of pitches being reserved for the static second home type of caravan, where administration and the provision of a steady income is much simpler for the owner of the site.

The policy of the Lake District Planning Board in limiting further caravan sites, near Ullswater does appear to be working as there is an increasing number of enquiries concerning the provision of sites well back from the lake. It is to be hoped that if some of these applications are successful greater provision can be made for the tourist caravan, and it may assist to this end if the standard of amenity required on the licence is reduced where tourist caravans are concerned. The alternative to this would be the provision of a suitable site by one of the Local Authorities.

### **Swimming Pools**

There are three pools in the area which are open to the public and these are situated at Hunsonby, Culgaith and Lazonby. Only the Lazonby pool has the water automatically filtered and chlorinated, although plans are being made for the improvement of Hunsonby Pool.

Samples are regularly taken from all pools and advice given on the maintenance of a reasonable standard of purity of water in the pools.

### **Noise Abatement Act**

No action has been necessary under this legislation, but I have received complaints concerning the use of gas operated bird scarers. These appear to be used increasingly by farmers and give out a loud report at intervals of approximately 15 minutes. One can appreciate the need for these machines during daylight hours from dawn to dusk, but there is no need for them to continue through the night to disturb the sleep of people nearby.

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

Rodent Control is a service that tends to be pushed into the background, but it is an important function and apart from the damage caused by rodents, they are of course carriers of disease.



The Council employ a part-time rodent operator who is also employed by the Penrith Urban District Council. All the Council's tips and sewage works are now regularly treated for rats and sprayed for flies during the summer months.

Treatment of infections in domestic property is carried out without charge, and other properties charged on a time and material basis. Several contracts have been entered into for the treatment of farms and other business premises on an annual basis.

Properties Other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of Properties in district ..	4,054	938
2. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. .. .	152	16
Number infested by (i) Rats ..	84	11
(ii) Mice ..	68	5
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .. .. .	108	76
Number infested by (i) Rats ..	75	54
(ii) Mice ..	25	20
SEWERS infested by rats .. ..	4	—



# THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

**TABLE A**  
REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	Number of Premises Registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of regis- tered premises receiving a general inspec- tion during the year
Offices .. .. .	—	12	4
Retail Shops .. .. .	—	12	6
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens..	1	19	13
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>23</b>

**TABLE B**

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered  
premises .. .. . 53

**TABLE C**

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN  
REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices.. .. .	64
Retail Shops .. .. .	37
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to the public	114
Canteens .. .. .	—
Fuel Storage depots .. .. .	—
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>Total Males .. .. .</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Total Females .. .. .</b>	<b>148</b>

TABLE D

## EXEMPTIONS.

PARTS I, II, III AND IV

Parts:—I Space (Sec. 5(2)), II—Temperature (Sec. 6), III—Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9),  
IV—Washing Facilities (Sec. 10(1)).

Class of Premises	No. of exemptions current at end of year (3)	During the Year					Appeals to Court against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawal of an exemption	
		No. of exemptions		No. of applications		(7)	No. made (8)	No. allowed (9)
		newly granted (3)	extended (4)	expired or with-drawn (5)	refused (6)			
(1)								
Offices .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Retail shops .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to public, canteens ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fuel storage depots .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS.

Section	Number of Contraventions Found	Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness .. .. 1	13	Sitting facilities .. -
5	Overcrowding .. .. 1	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers -
6	Temperature .. .. -	15	Eating Facilities .. -
7	Ventilation .. .. -	16	Floors, passage and stairs .. .. 3
8	Lighting .. .. -	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery .. .. 3
9	Sanitary Conveniences .. 1	18	Protection of young per- sons from dangerous machinery .. .. -
10	Washing facilities .. 1	19	Training of young per- sons working at dan- gerous machinery .. -
11	Supply of Drinking Water -	23	Prohibition of heavy work .. .. -
12	Clothing Accommodation -	24	First Aid 1
			Other matters .. 3
			Total .. .. 14

# REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported		Total No. Investi- gated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non-Fatal		Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal advice	No action
Offices .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Retail Shops .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel Storage Depots .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



**TABLE E**  
**PROSECUTIONS**

PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED OF WHICH THE HEARING  
WAS COMPLETED IN THE YEAR

Section of Act or title of Regulation or Order	No of Informations Laid	No. of Informa- tions leading to a conviction
Nil	Nil	Nil

No. of Persons or companies Prosecuted ...	Nil
No. of complaints (or summary applications) made under section 22 ...	Nil
No. of interim orders granted ...	Nil

**TABLE F**

**STAFF**

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act ...	2
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act ...	Nil

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. WILDING,

Chief Public Health Inspector.





